## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

b#5 \$95:8

Attorney Docket No. 67242/107

In re patent application of

Fumihiko Watanabe et al.

Serial No. Unassigned

Filed: July 22, 1998

For: SULFONATED AN

SULFONATED AMINO ACID DERIVATIVES AND

METALLOPROTEINASE INHIBITORS CONTAINING THE SAME

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered into the application:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2".

Claim 20, line 1, delete "any one of claims 4 to 19" and insert --claim 4--.

Claim 21, line 1, delete "any one of claims 4 to 7 and 10 to 19" and insert --claim 4--.

Claim 22, line 1, delete "any one of claims 4 to 19" and insert --claim 4--.

Claim 23, line 1, delete "any one of claims" and
insert --claim 4.--;

line 2, delete line in its entirety.